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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARTFORD.

FORTY-SIXTH.

ANNUAL REPORT.
FOR THE YEAR 1944.

J. S. ROGERS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

TEMPORARY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARTFORD.

Forty-Sixth Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for
the Year, 1944.

To the Members of the Dartford Rural District Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit in conjunction with the Chief
Sanitary Inspector, the Forty-Sixth Annual Report.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

TEMPORARY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (part time): - J.S. ROGERS,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

TEMPORARY DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (Part time): -
A.T.L. NORFOLK, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (From September, 1944).

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR (Whole time) :- F. Sutch, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

SANITARY INSPECTOR (Whole time): - P.P. Leacock, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

CLERK: - D.C.A. Bennie.

HEALTH VISITORS. (Whole Time): - Miss. D.M. Bates., S.R.N., S.C.M.,
A.R.S.I. Miss. E. Walling, S.R.N., S.C.M., A.R.S.I., Miss. A.J.
Leach, S.R.N., S.C.M., A.R.S.I.

OFFICERS WITH H.M. FORCES: - M.A.G. Ward. Deputy Medical Officer
T.H. Iddison, Sanitary Inspector, S.F. Hollands, Pupil Inspector.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BARFORD

Forty-Sixth Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for
the Year, 1944

To the Members of the Barford Rural District Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honor to submit in connection with the Chief
Sanitary Inspector, the forty-sixth annual report.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

TEMPORARY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (part time) :- E. E. ROBERTS,
M.B.B.S., D.M.C.P.

TEMPORARY DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (part time) :-
A. T. L. BOWDLE, M.B.B.S., D.M.C.P. (from September, 1944).

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR (whole time) :- P. Butler, M.B.B.S., M.S.I.A.

SANITARY INSPECTOR (whole time) :- P. P. JENNISON, M.B.B.S., M.S.I.A.

CLERK :- E. C. A. BOWDLE.

HEALTH VISITORS (whole time) :- Miss D. M. BAKER, B.N.H., S.C.H.,
A.R.H.I., Miss E. VALLIS, B.N.H., S.C.H., M.S.I.A., Miss A. J.
LEACH, B.N.H., S.C.H., M.S.I.A.

OFFICERS WITH M.M. HOBBES :- M.A.O. WARD, Deputy Medical Officer,
T.H. JENNISON, Sanitary Inspector, S.F. HOLMES, Public Inspector.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres).....	34,113.
Population (Census 1931).....	31,253.
Resident population.....	34,040
No. of inhabited houses (approx).....	9,612.
Rateable Value.....	£256,274.
Sum represented by penny rate.	£1,000.

	Total.	M.	E.	
Live Births (Legitimate	546	276	270	{ Birth rate of 1,000 of the estimated resident population...17
(Illegitimate.	31	17	14	

	Total.	M.	F.	
Stillbirths. Legitimate.	19	7	12	{ Rate per 1,000 total (Live and still) Births --- 31.88
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
	19	7	12	
Deaths.....	383	201	182	{ Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 11.26

General death rate for England and Wales 11.6

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 (From puerperal sepsis: -
and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short (from other puerperal
List). (causes.....2

Death Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.....4.1

Death Rate of Children under 1 year of age: -

All infants per 1,000 live births.....43.5

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....42.1

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....65

General death rate of infants under one year of age for England
and Wales.....46.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....73

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....1

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).....1

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age).....-

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres).....	34,117
Population (Census 1931).....	32,253
Resident population.....	34,040
No. of inhabited houses (approx).....	9,612
Rateable Value.....	£256,274
Sum represented by penny rate.	£1,000

	Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate Live Births	246	276	270
Illegitimate Live Births	31	17	14
Birth rate of 1,000 of the estimated resident population...17			

	Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate Stillbirths	19	7	12
Illegitimate Stillbirths	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			
Legitimate	31.88		

Deaths.....	387	201	186
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 11.6			

General death rate for England and Wales 11.6

Deaths from purpural annua (Headings 29 (from purpural annua; and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short (from other purpural annua).....	2
Death Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.....	4.1
Death rate of children under 1 year of age: -	
All infants per 1,000 live births.....	47.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	12.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	65
General death rate of infants under one year of age for England and Wales.....	45
Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....	73
Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).....	1
Deaths from Diphtheria (under two years of age).....	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory facilities ; -

During the year the following positive specimens were received from the County Laboratory in respect of this District: -

Swabs	-
Sputa.....	16
Others.....	-

Ambulance facilities : - Remain the same as in previous years.
The service is adequate.

Nursing in the Home: - There is nothing to note under this heading.

Hospitals : - There is nothing further to note under this heading.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The attendances at the Infant Welfare Centres were as follows: -

<u>Clinic.</u>	<u>No. of Clinics held.</u>	<u>Average attendances.</u>
Ash.....	22	8
Bean.....	23	9
Darenth.....	23	21
Farningham.....	23	31
Hextable.....	24	40
Horton Kirby.....	23	39
Kingsdown.....	21	30
Longfield.....	23	33
Southfleet.....	22	23
Stone.....	46	22
Swanley.....	23	48
Wilmington.....	24	34

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS:-

Sputa.....	16	
Swanley.....	180	
Stone.....	131	
Longfield.....	6	
Southfleet.....	45	
"Riseley".....	389	
		<u>Total attendances.</u>

Ambulance facilities : - Remain the same as in previous years.
The service is adequate.

Nursing in the Home: - There is nothing to note under this heading.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

"RISELEY," MATERNITY HOME, HORTON KIRBY.

156 admissions to the Home were recorded during the year, 132 of which were residents in the Rural area, and 24 from neighbouring districts.

WAR TIME NURSERIES.

The Council have two War Time Nurseries, one at The Lawns, Stone, and one at Fern Cottages, White Oak Hospital, Swanley. The following is a summary of the average monthly attendances at each Nursery.

STONE.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	J.	Jly.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Under years	7	8	6	7	8	9	6	6	7	8	10	8
Over years	21	17	25	29	27	18	17	14	18	16	13	15

SWANLEY.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	J.	Jly.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Under years	7	11	8	12	11	8	4	3	5	7	6	3
Over years	15	19	15	17	16	17	9	3	9	11	11	10

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN.

Health Visitors.

Child Life Protection: - Reports received from the Visitors continue satisfactory and there has been no cause for action.

Arrangements for Dental and Orthopaedic Cases: - Dental and Orthopaedic cases are sent for treatment to the County Hospital, Dartford under arrangement with the Kent County Council.

Appointments are made for pre-school children to attend various Ophthalmic Clinics, arrangements being made with the Kent County Council.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY: -

Main water supplies are by the Metropolitan Water Board and the Mid Kent Water Co. Samples are taken quarterly from these mains and submitted to the County Laboratory. These waters are reported to be bacteriologically an excellent water and well fitted for a public supply. Quality and Quantity satisfactory.

91.46% of dwelling houses are supplied direct from main supply.
8.54% by private supply or wells.

Rivers and Streams: - Inspections were made through the Darent Valley, and no cause for action found.

"HISSELF" MATERNITY HOME, HORTON KIRBY

156 admissions to the Home were recorded during the year, 1920 of which were residents in the Rural area, and 24 from neighbouring districts.

WAR TIME HURSTLES.

The Council have two War Time Nurseries, one at The Lanes, Stone, and one at Fern Cottage, White Oak Hospital, Swanley. The following is a summary of the average monthly admissions at each Nursery.

STONE.

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1919	21	17	25	29	27	18	17	14	18	18	17	1

SWANLEY.

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1919	15	19	18	17	18	17	21	3	9	11	8	3

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR WOMEN OR CHILDREN.

Health Visitors.

Child Life Protection: - Reports received from the Visitors continue satisfactory and there has been no cause for action.

Arrangements for Dental and Orthopaedic Cases: - Dental and Orthopaedic cases are sent for treatment to the County Hospital, Dartford under arrangement with the Kent County Council.

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Rivers and Streams: - Inspections were made through the Dartford Valley, and no cause for action found.

Closet accommodation: - During the year 1 cesspool was abolished, 2 repaired and 2 privy pits abolished and cesspool drainage and water closets installed.

W.C's discharging into drainage system.....7272.
W.C's discharging into cesspools.....2014.
Pail closets..... 86
Earth closets..... 240

Public Cleansing: - A Fortnightly collection of house refuse is carried out over the whole area. Two motor vehicles are employed for cesspool emptying. A Sanitary Depot is provided at Swanley with modern workshop to undertake all running repairs to vehicles under the direction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

	No. in District	No. of visits in 1944.	No. of faults and defects found.	No. of faults and defects remedied.
Bakewhouses.....	14	61	5	5
Dairies.....	57	389	14	14
Slaughter (Registered).. Houses (Licensed) ..	- 12	{ 48	-	-
Other food preparing places. which are, as such, subject to inspection.....	135	441	7	7
Offensive Trades.....	-	-	-	-
Common Lodging-houses...	-	-	-	-
Houses let in lodgings..	-	-	-	-
Factories.....	38	167	5	5
Workshops.....	7	23	-	-
Workplaces (other than outworkers' homes).....	-	-	-	-

Nuisances and defects remedied during the year (other than those enumerated in the above tabulation):-

Overcrowding..... 4	Refuse Receptacles..... 14
Keeping of Animals.... 6	Tents, Vans and Sheds..... 21
Hop-pickers' Camps.... 9	Smoke nuisances..... 4
Sanitary Accommodation: -	Yard paving..... 5
(i) Insufficient.... 3	Dampness..... 6
(ii) Defective..... 27	Roofs and rain water pipes... 30
Drainage:-	Floors..... 33
(i) Reconstructed... 22	Walls and ceilings..... 39
(ii) Repaired..... 7	Windows and ventilation..... 2
(iii) Cleansed..... 36	Baths, lavatory basins and sinks..... 6
	Water supplies..... 10

ERADICATION OF BUGS.

- | | | | |
|-------|------|---|----|
| L (a) | (i) | Number of Council Houses found to be infested..... | 4 |
| | (ii) | Disinfested..... | 4 |
| (b) | (i). | Number of private houses ^{found} to be infested..... | 25 |
| | | Disinfested..... | 25 |

2. Method employed for freeing infested houses is by stripping wall paper, all walls, skirtings, mouldings, frames, etc., are then sprayed with Zaldecide.

3. Any clothing found to be verminous is sent to Bow Arrow Hospital and put through steam disinfector.

4. All the work of disinfection is carried out by the Council's Sanitary Inspectors.

5. Follow-up visits are made and instructions given to tenants regarding home management to prevent re-infestation.

SCHOOLS.

All schools are provided with main water supply and only in the outlying parishes the drainage is by cesspool or pits.

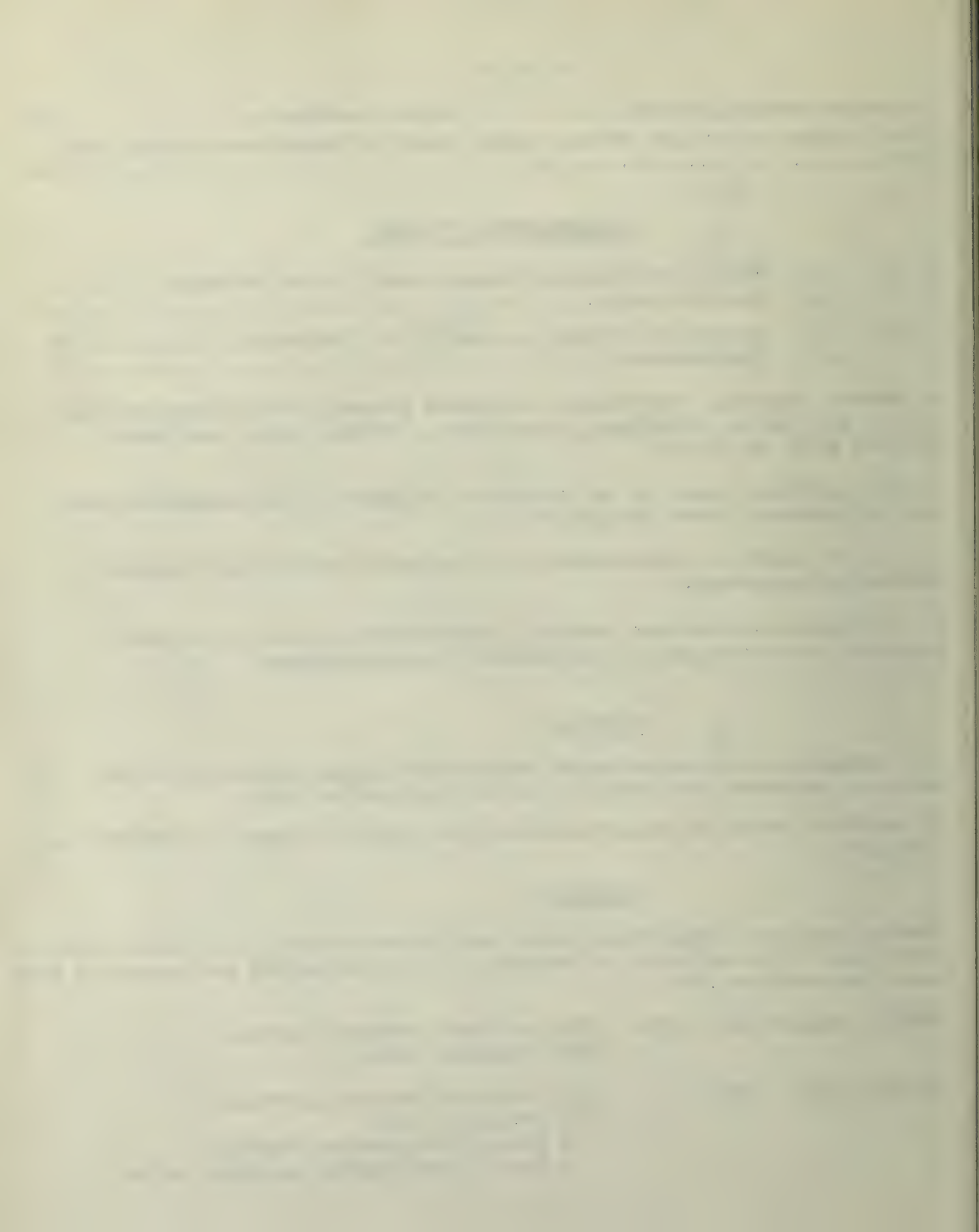
No serious outbreak occurred during the year in regard to infectious diseases.

HOUSING.

During the year inspections were made under Housing and Public Health Acts, the following being a summary of Notices served and complied with under the various Acts: -

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. 180 Informal Notices served.
169 Complied with.

HOUSING ACT, 1936. 39 Informal Notices served.
28 Complied with
9 Demolition Orders served.
4 Demolition Orders complied with.



During the year four unfit properties were demolished. Demolition orders were made in respect of five other properties and accepted by the owners. These properties will be demolished as houses become available for the present tenants

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

42 Premises were found to be rat infested during the year. Poisonous bait was used with marked effect. The system advocated by the Ministry of Food of pre-baiting with sausage rusk followed by a mixture of rusk and zinc phosphide has proved satisfactory.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply : - The following are the graded Milk Producers in the District :

E.E. Taylor.	Kingsdown.	Tuberculin Tested
W. Alexander.	Home Farm, Eynsford.	"
Houlding Bros.	Speedgate Fawkham,	"
J. & B. Martin.	Pinden End Farm, Pinden,	"
M.T. Fulford.	North Ash Farm,	Accredited.
R. Tremlett.	Wilmington Hall Farm,	"
Pettings Estate Co, Ltd	Ash.	"

Inspections are made of all dairies and cowsheds. Samples of milk are taken regularly in accordance with instructions received from the County Medical Officer. Other samples are taken as the necessity arises. Improvements are being carried out to cowsheds and dairies at Beesfield Farm, Farningham, Maplescombe Farm, Farningham, and Chalkcroft Farm, Pinden.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

No stalls exist in the Dartford Rural Area. All vehicles used as shops are stopped and meat and fish examined. Routine visits are made to all butcher's shops and food preparing places.

The following carcasses were examined during the year and found fit for human consumption: -

Cows.....31.
Pigs.....192.
Calves..... 1
Sheep..... 58

2 pigs, 2 pigs heads, and 1 cow found to be tubercular were destroyed.



The following foods were also condemned: -

9 lbs Chocolate.	112 lbs "Rexsor" Rusks,
33 tins milk.	2 lbs chopped ham.
2 Pigs head (Tuberculous)	5 tins party loaf.
1 tin stewed steak.	24 tins pilchards.
41b 12ozs Sausage Meat.	5 tins mackerel.
3 tins baked beans.	3 tins salmon,
1 tin soup.	12 lbs butter.
76 lbs cheese.	817 lbs beef.
293 lbs pork.	
126 lbs bacon.	
39 lbs Park Luncheon Meat.	
5 tins plums.	
32 tins evaporated milk.	

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food : -

All laboratory work is carried out at the County Laboratory. Samples taken and submitted for examination to County Laboratory proved satisfactory.

Nutrition: - Nothing to report under this heading.

Shell Fish and other Fish: - There are no shell-fish beds in the waterside area of the Rural District. All shell-fish sold in the area comes from Billingsgate Market.

22 stone of fish was found to be unsound and destroyed.

TREATMENT OF SCABIES AND HEADLICE.

During the year, 456 persons were treated for Scabies and 48 persons treated for headlice at the Cleansing Station. Two treatments each are normally given, "Ascabiol" being used in both infections. Personal clothes, bedding, blankets, etc., are stoved and follow-up visits made to patients. Every person in an infected house is taken to the Cleansing Station for treatment.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1944.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total cases Notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Smallpox.....	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	63x	2	-
Diphtheria.....	11x	1	-
Enteric Fever.....	-	-	-
Dysentery.....	8x	-	-
Pneumonia.....	19x	2	16
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	3	2	2
Puerperal Fever.....	-	-	-
Erysipelas.....	13x	1	1
Polio-Myelitis.....	-	-	1
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.	1x	1	-
Whooping Cough.....	55x	-	1
Measles.....	81x	-	1
Scabies ¹ / ₂	112x	-	-
Totals....	366	9	20

x 11 Diphtheria cases, 30 Scarlet Fever cases, 7 Erysipelas cases, 8 Dysentery cases, 25 Measles cases, 2 Pneumonia cases, 37 Whooping Cough cases, and 41 Scabies cases occurred at Institutions and Hospitals and were either isolated there or sent to Isolation Hospitals outside this area.

It will be noticed that only 30 out of the 63 Scarlet Fever Cases were admitted to Hospital.

The figures in the Death column are those of the Registrar-General and regarding the Pneumonia figures, I am of opinion that many cases are not notified to the Local Authority.

AGE GROUPS.

sease.	Under 1 yr.	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Total
Scarlet Fever.....	1	1	12	6	5	24	9	2	2	1	-	-	63
Diphtheria.....	-	-	1	3	1	2	-	1	2	-	1	-	11
Erysipelas.....	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3	4	4	13
Pneumonia.....	-	-	1	-	-	3	2	-	2	1	6	4	19
Typhoid Fever.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever.....	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Intermittent Fever....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intermittent Pyrexia..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3
Polio-Myelitis.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Enteric Fever.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.....	1	3	15	10	7	44	1	-	-	-	-	-	81
Whooping Cough.....	-	4	16	8	12	12	3	-	-	-	-	-	55
Scarlet Fever.....	-	2	2	1	3	11	14	16	28	20	10	5	112
Totals	2	10	54	29	28	97	29	21	35	27	21	13	366

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION.

During the year the following were the numbers of children immunized at the various Clinics: -

Clinic.	Pre-School Children.	School. Children.	Total.
h.....	2	-	2
ean.....	1	1	2
arenth.....	8	10	18
arningham.....	12	2	14
extable.....	19	-	19
orton Kirby.....	12	6	18
ingsdown.....	9	-	9
ongfield.....	7	1	8
outhfleet.....	6	-	6
tone.....	16	5	21
wanley.....	9	5	14
ilnington.....	18	-	18
Totals.....	119	30	149

WHOOPIING COUGH IMMUNIZATION.

During the year the following were the numbers of children immunized at the various Clinics: -

<u>Clinic.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Ash.....	3
Bean.....	-
Darenth.....	2
Farningham.....	1
Hextable.....	21
Horton Kirby.....	11
Kingsdown.....	5
Longfield.....	1
Southfleet.....	1
Stone.....	11
Swanley.....	37
Wilmington.....	23
Total.	<u>116</u>

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, - No action taken.

OPHTHALMIA MALIGNANTUM

ified	CASES.		Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total: Blindness.	Deaths.
	Treated					
	At home	In Hospital				
1	1	-	1	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, and section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936. - No cause for action.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non. Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.....	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
10.....	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
15.....	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
20.....	-	3	-	1	1	1	-	-
25.....	2	3	-	-	-	1	-	-
35.....	2	3	-	-	-	2	-	-
45.....	4	2	-	-	4	2	-	-
55.....	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
and upwards.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals..	18	11	1	3	9	6	-	-

Ratio of non-notified deaths to total Tuberculosis, 1 to 10. Enquiries are made where notifications have not been made, and Doctors are written to when there have been oversights.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

1. INSPECTIONS under Part I, Factories Act, 1937.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of	
		Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power.....	154	7	-
Factories without mechanical power.....	19	-	-
Other premises under the Act	7	-	-
Totals.....	180	7	-

2. RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found	Remedied.	Referred to H. M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness.....	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding.....	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature....	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation.....	1	1	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.....	1	1	-	-
(Insufficient.....	4	4	-	-
Sanitary (Unsuitable or	-	-	-	-
conveniences (defective.....	-	-	-	-
(Not separate for	1	1	-	-
(sexes.....	-	-	-	-
Other offences.....	-	-	-	-
Totals.....	7	7	-	-

SALVAGE.

During 1944 progress has been maintained in the collection and disposal of salvage, the following being the figures for the year: -

175½ tons of Salvage disposed of ^{AMOUNTING} ~~amount~~ to £1,005. 0s. 0d.
 524½ tons of Kitchen Waste collected by local pig and poultry breeders.
 84½ tons of Salvage collected by voluntary bodies.
 273½ tons of Screened dust removed by brickmakers, they finding all labour and taking the dust in payment.

During the National Book Drive held in this District between 3rd June and 17th June, the following was the number of books collected, sorted and despatched.

Books despatched to H.M. Forces.	2,970
Books despatched to paper mills.	37,967
Total	<u>40,937</u>

The following is a summary of collections of salvage 1940 - 1944: -

YEAR.	T.	c.	q.	£.	s.	d.
1940	250	12	0	832	8	6
1941.	218	10	0	714	15	10
1942	443	10	0	2,048	8	2
1943.	239	15	0	1,289	16	6
1944.	175	12	1	1,005	0	0
	<u>1,327</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>£5,890</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. S. ROGERS.

